

In talking to him we learned of an adult night school in Civil Defense, which we attended after dinner. The meeting was held in the school room and was attended by 25-30 men. When we entered we were again the center of attention - and we were about as grubby as possible. There was a general interest, but they learned more about the workings of a geiger counter than they did about fires, protection, etc. We talked to the government official after the meeting and he gave us permission to sleep in the school. We went back for our packs and headed for the school. I had brought no blanket, and so I slept on my pancho on the floor - no pillow, cold, and generally uncomfortable.

We arose at 6:00 and Senor Gonzales provided us with breakfast. This was Thursday, August 15, a Catholic Holy Day, so we were invited to church and attended. It was a simple one room church and I had to follow Joe's every move as I had no idea of what to do. At the end, Joe talked to the Priest who invited us to visit in Jayuya on our way back. We also talked to the schoolteacher and asked if we could attend some classes. He was reluctant to do so, but succumbed.

We got to school at 9:00, at the beginning of the English class. Again we caused our usual disturbance. It was a sixth grade class and they were learning "This book is mine, his, hers, etc." Most were pretty good. The instructor was a little shaky, but adequate. The next period was PE - but nothing like that existed - only random play or looking at us. Doug and I talked to the school teacher at great length about his problem and the general school situation. This was really quite interesting as we discussed the English class, recreation programs, etc. After school we went back to the Tienda and played games with the kids. Again Senor Gonzales fed us - corn, peas, rice casserole, spaghetti & meat balls, tomatoes, avocado, fish, beer, and rum. Quite a feast and a fantastic person - so hospitable and helpful as were all the Puerto Ricans.

We decided to leave Saliente at 2:00 and headed for Jayuya.

August 24, 1963:

Am on the plane going to New York from Puerto Rico and will use this time to catch up. First, to finish the 4 Day Trek.

We arrived in Jayuya on Thursday afternoon and were immediately met and surrounded by 20-30 kids who were just getting out of school. We went then to the Priest's house where we rested a bit. We wandered outside and began to play basketball with a couple of kids. Soon the number enlarged to about 20. Following this we sat around the court and played games with the kids, exchanging tricks, learning Spanish and English. I wound up giving our only dictionary away to a little boy. These kids played well beyond the 8:30 curfew. That night we ate like Kings, slept on beds - all of which was extremely welcome.

We left Jayuya on Friday morning to walk close to Dos Bocas. We followed our map well in the beginning until about 1:00 PM. From then on to 8:30 in the night we were totally lost - going up and down numerous hills and covering barely $\frac{1}{2}$ mile laterally,

At 8:30, after 1 3/4 hours of continual fighting through solid bahana jungle, we came across a small, bare-footed man beaving a machete over his shoulder. He led us to his father's house, who took us all in. It was an incredibly poor house, high on a hill, with pigs, hogs, and other animals all around. They fed us coffee, bread, and guava paste. We slept on the floor of his barn.

By this time we were way SW of our course. Our getting lost was due to the fact that there were numerous new roads and trails where ours was to be.

After spending a very uncomfortable night, we left at 7:30 in the morning, after breakfast of coffee and corn cakes, via a main road to Dos Bocas. We caught the ferry across the lake and were met with a direct climb of 700-800 feet to Antonio's Tienda. From there it was a short, singing walk to camp. Followed debriefing, a shower, blister patching and a trip to San Juan.

In San Juan, stayed at the Holiday Inn, which I think it safe to say had the worst service anywhere. Just terrible!! Spent Saturday night in Old San Juan going to a few clubs - Owl Club, Sand and Sea, Mexico in Puert Rico, El Convento. On Sunday I just lay around the beach and did some snorkling with John Griffin's equipment. Really tremendous swimming inbetween the coral.

Monday, August 19, began the usual routine. In the morning had Spanish followed by swimming in the afternoon. This time six lengths of tubes in the ocean.

August 25, 1963:

Tuesday continued the schedule with swimming in the morning consisting of making life-preservers out of cover-alls. This was followed by cutting grass with a machete for almost 2 hours. In the afternoon had Spanish.

Wednesday, August 21, I had to work all morning and helped to pour concrete for the two flag-poles. In the afternoon I had rocks. This time we went over the dam. This was really not very bad. First, a 30 foot drop through mid air until you hit the slanted drop to the ground. I did this twice. Then to the actual rocks, where I climbed "Brazil", which was really hard and ended with a 90 degree Book. I never got a chance to climb "Bolivia", but really would have liked to try it. That night had a last Spanish class with Senor Fernandez.

On Thursday, August 22, had a swim under-water. Here I swam 2 lengths under-water. I can safely say that this was my most satisfying achievement of the entire camp cycle. I never thought I would make it. But I did in 47 seconds. Later in the morning had Rec. Skills and learned the Merengue and other native dances. In the afternoon went through the "Confidence Course" - swinging across 6 ropes, along a wire through a tire, up 30 feet to the Burma Bridge, down a 45 degree rope,

over the cargo net, up 45 feet to the "zip cord", and finally down the 80 foot ride on the cord. That night there was our final fiesta with the Arecibo Steel Band. I was head of the entertainment and MC of the acts. Was up till 4:30 AM.

On Friday, completely hungover, went into the ocean again, this time to swim an intolerable 4 laps with those suits on. What a drag! That afternoon had Camp clean-up and went to bed early.

On Saturday, the 24th, got up at 3:00 AM to get ready to leave. Finally got all my dirty boots and wet clothes packed away and went to the airport in San Juan. It was quite sad leaving. I had made some good friends among the staff - especially John Griffen, Jim Lowry, and Mark Hansen - also Stu Bolton, Ben Elkus, Al and Anita Hale, Jim Wright, Joannie, Jorge, Palermo, and Tripod. We flew up to New York in a TCA #8 jet. There we changed to a American Charter DC7 and headed West. We stopped in St. Louis to let that group off - and then to Los Angeles. In all the trip was 23 1/2 hours and it was a good thing that it was a charter because we could really relax as there were no other passengers.

Upon arriving in LA, we took a bus to LA State College and there at Diablo Terrace Apartments had box lunches and got our room assignments. We were assigned to College Palms. I am rooming with Rob Gutowski and Noel Patterson. Rob is OK but Noel is really a FINK.

The next day, Sunday the 26th, we began a day of psychological testing with the Minnesota Multi-personality, Rorschak (which was sort of scary), and other preference tests. I had taken some of these before, so they weren't too bad except for the Rorschak. Sunday night there was a banquet in honor of us - and attended mainly by us and our instructors. There were speeches by President Graves, Greg Newton, and the Selection Officer. This selection process is unbelievably thorough. There is no real point in worrying about it, but with so many psychologists and psychiatrists watching you, it's hard from being uneasy. At dinner I had the luck of sitting across from one of the psychiatrists. He practically looks right through your head. I was sort of uneasy - didn't know what to do with my hands, eyes, etc.

Monday, August 26, 1964:

This morning had some more testing with a questionnaire about my autobiography. The questions were the following (more or less):
 1- What kind of a person do you think you are? 2- How well do you get along with people? 3- What has been your toughest life situation? (For this I put, for the sake of nothing else, getting used to the different environs of the South and reaching the realizations of adapting. 4- What are your alternate plans if you leave Peace Corps Training? 5- How will the Peace Corps influence your future? 6- What will the Peace Corps do for you personally? 7- Have you ever seen, or do you need a psychiatrist? 8- Describe your closest male and female friend. There were three others that I can not remember. After this one test, we had a free day which most spent lying around the pool.

Our schedule is amazing. Eleven hours a day, most of Saturday, with Sunday off - I hope. Tomorrow is the first real day and I'm anxious to begin. This is going to be a long hard haul. I hope that I can make it.

Sunday, September 1, 1963:

Just finished my first week here at LASC. Not really too much to say.

The Spanish, though, is a little disappointing as my teacher, Roger Nedry, just does not seem capable enough to teach this level, type, or calibre of Spanish to post-college people. A little bit disappointing also are some of the other instructors - DeArmound in History of the DR, Edt in Geography, and Potter in American Political Practices. But, on the whole, things are OK. I've finally gotten used to the fourteen hour day. This past week-end went to Disneyland - really fantastic and saw Leonard Bernstein at the Hollywood Bowl.

Sargeant Shriver comes tomorrow and am looking forward to that.

Am living in good quarters. Swimming pool, TV room, ice box, etc. Am rooming now with only Rob Gutowski.

Monday, September 2, 1963:

Nothing much happened except that Sargent Shriver came tonight. I was not so impressed with the sophisticated smoothness of the man, but there was a definite "down-to-earth" honesty about him. There was no doubt as to his complete devotion to the Peace Corps - not so much on the level of "...lets help people...", as it was from the standpoint of the government and how the Peace Corps is spreading America. He seemed excited about the Peace Corps still, and I enjoyed his speech concerning Peace Corps experiences, awards, and characteristics.

Sunday, September 15, 1963:

These past two weeks have been of a regular nature as noted by the schedules.

My language is coming along OK. Senor Coffman was an excellent teacher and I am going to try an intermediate group on Monday. My other courses have been OK except for Addison Potter, an extreme conservative who presented a very one-sided picture of the role of Congress. Dr. Irquidi, on Marxism, has been very good. Also had a First Aid Course and got a 95 to get my certificate.

The week of September 9-14 was full of excitement. Had some excellent excellent lectures from Dr. Bray on Inter-American Affairs, but some bad ones by Mr. Sable, Dr. Cho, and most of the UCA instructors.

Had my first talk with the psychologist, Dr. Cannicot. Contrary to early expectations, I found him a congenial, very pleasant man to talk with. He asked me how I liked my family, Mait and my relations with him, did I date in college, am I a "ladies man", which of the PC girls did I want an affair with (Carol Stubbs), what I hoped to accomplish in the PC, what would be my biggest difficulty (getting people to move into a job), would the living conditions bother me, do I feel more comfortable with boys or girls. As it turned out, I didn't have nearly as bad a time as some other did.

Also had a group class session with Dr. Kropfchek, the consulting psychiatrist. This was quite interesting watching the psychiatrist work and operate.

My last two week-ends have been interesting. On Saturday and Sunday, the 7th and 8th, went out with Mike Franks to some of his friends' houses in Beverly Hills. It was fantastic. One house was selling for \$400,000. The bar had 150 wine bottles, mechanical ice machine, push button bottles, countless glasses of all types and all expensive, pool table, movie-type drapes, and a red carpet at least five inches thick. The rest of the house came with an albino German Shepard, pool house with phones and tennis court. A fantastic pad.

There is so little to write about as so little happens. As a whole, the training has been excellent. Some of the courses, such as those in US-history, City Planning, Parliamentary procedure, are really useless. Most of the instructors don't know anything about the Dominican Republic, which they should. I would also say that some time should be provided to study Spanish.

There is a general growing feeling of concern for selection, I think sponsored by the psycho talks going on. My concern has lessened somewhat. I am not entirely sure or confident that I will be selected and still entertain many thoughts of concern and hope - more than I can say - that I am selected. But at the same time, believe that I will be selected. One can't go through this training with an entirely pessimistic viewpoint - nor totally optimistic. A happy medium must be found. This is the first time that I have been seriously evaluated and judged from extensive personality criteria. It is quite different from anything before. I also am getting a little tired of the strong emphasis on group actions. Everything is done by, for, and with the group. This, I think, is really getting to everyone.

Another thought is the strange relationship between the men and the women. There are rarely regular dates or similar regular things. This is due a lot to our beginning in Puerto Rico, the money arrangement, and "the group". This, though will change as time passes on.

That's enough for a while.

Sunday, September 22, 1963:

Same old week with the usual classes. My UCA classes were almost worthless - with the only real contributions being a little material to do with building latrines. Spanish classes with Nedry were almost intolerable - he being incapable of teaching this type of Spanish. As usual Dr. Bray and Dr. Irquidi were terrific. This coming week promises to be interesting with some good lectures and the meeting of the Mid-Board Selection Committee. This whole business worries me a little, but there is absolutely nothing I can do about it.

I guess the only thing that I will miss in the next two years will be loss of contact with the Civil Rights Fight. I am really quite emotionally involved and would like to be able to contribute something to the fight. I just can not understand how people, regardless of their basic, innate prejudices, can maliciously murder young children. To me that is intolerable!

Well - off to another week and Mid-Boards.

Thursday, September 27, 1963:

These past few days have been rather hectic. Besides the incredible 105-110 degree heat, there have been the added aggravations and pressures of the Mid-board Selection Meeting this week-end. I guess I've done all the worrying I can - probably enough for ten people. I've thought hard and I can't think of why I would be selected-out. But there are many variables out of my control and these may well be objectionable things about me - psychologically - that I am unaware of. But I'll just wait.

Yesterday, there also occurred the Coup in the DR. I really feel sorry for Juan Bosch - he seemed to have tried so hard. But his fate is that of many political amateurs - the victims of their own well-meaning ignorance. Only in the DR objections are ended in reality, whereas in the US, the Eisenhowers can plunder along relatively unscathed. It is too bad as I was just getting involved with the DR and wanted to help the people, but I can't fully rationalize working in a dictatorship.

A certain antagonism towards the group as a whole is also developing. I have never been so fully enveloped by the same people for so long. It begins to grate after a while.

Sunday, October 6, 1963:

I haven't written in a long time, so I hope I include everything. Needless to say, I wasn't selected-out and wasn't called in for a special talk. I would like to know where I stand, but I guess I'm OK if they said nothing.

As far as classes are concerned, they are about the same.

The "Field trips" in UCA were practically useless. We also had a test which was not really significant either. They just missed the boat on this whole UCA Program, but I realize at the same time, that Urban Community Development is the hardest thing to train people for. This next week we are going to learn some basic building skills - I hope.

Gene Schreiber arrived from PC Washington. A helluva nice guy who works in the recruiting - liason department.

I am just now beginning to think what it is really going to be like in the DR. What are going to be my feelings when I walk down my first slum street? This whole deal is going to be a tremendous challenge - especially the Spanish, which I am not too secure in now. I understand that we won't be living in the slums immediately because of the physical danger. From what I can gather about success in the Peace Corps - it is not so much how many schools are built, but whether a real sense of community development was left behind. I am beginning to develop a real strong feeling about the DR and now want to go there more than any other place. As Dr. Callahan put it, we are a very important group as we will be the first to go the DR after the COUP. As it seems now, we will go down there despite any real outbreak in hostilities.

Only four more weeks of this crap to go - and it will be all over.

Saturday, October 12, 1963:

For a change, there is something to say. First, I got the OK from Washington to go to London on my home leave. I will really be glad to see Mother and Daddy and best of all, I think it will make them happy. I just hope I will be able to stop off in Chicago to see Mait and Susan. At this point, I will be glad to see them as well.

As for the seventh week of training goes, it was OK - although I am getting a little tired. Probably the best news is that from the psychologist, Dr. Cannicott. Many people in their second interviews had a very tough time and a rough treatment. But he was quite nice to me. He asked me first how I liked the program. I answered that I was a little tired of the training and that I was anxious to get to the DR. He added that I was doing fairly well in Spanish and that he could think of no one thing that would de-select me. To say the least, this was good news. He then said that the only thing he might mention was that I was highly competitive and that I wanted to be one-up on everyone. To some extent this is true, but I am not conscious of it. I may very well give the impression because many times I get very emotionally involved. I am wont to be strong in my views, but I think not intolerant. For this reason, I may very well give the impression of trying to win over everybody. After this we laughed about the picture of a "Peace Corpnik" appearing for the first time in a slum town. All in all, it was a very satisfactory interview.

This week we had a talk from Franklin Williams, who is now head of the Peace Corps in Africa and was a director of the NAACP in California.

He spoke to us about Civil Rights and was very impressive. He was a very opinionated person in favor of "forced integration". He spoke of the decision of working for the Peace Corps as against the Civil Rights movement. He said, "What good is a country without freedom, but what good is freedom without a country?" He also spoke of Mrs Murphy explaining it is a confrontation between the RIGHT of pursuit of happiness and right to use public facilities versus the RIGHT of not serving any person that is deemed undesirable for any personal reason. He was a brilliant person and just another of the incredibly sharp people from PC Wash.

Also had some talks by Gene Schreiber, an ex-PCV from Tanganyika, who was here from DVC. He was single-handedly responsible for getting me permission to go to London. A very nice guy whom I would like to know better. I plan to write him in the future.

UCA is getting better. This past week we began learning practical skills, such as carpentry, masonry, etc. In Spanish, I am doing better and feel that I am getting the feel of the language. I am seriously going to try to speak it as much as possible.

Only three more weeks to last. This is so important to me, and I have confidence that I will make it.

Almost forgot, on Wednesday we had a peer rating, which asked such questions as - with whom do we want to live, for whom and with whom would we like to work, who would you like to work under you, who would be a success, what girls would we work with, who wouldn't be good, and who would be best to represent the American view abroad.

Sunday, October 13, 1963:

Last night went to a party to raise funds for the Student Peace Union. Pretty much of a drag, except talked with one of the students who had returned from the trip to Cuba. He didn't say very much and was fairly humble about it. There seems to me that there would be a danger that these guys now feel (I only speculate) that they are experts on Cuba, whereas they aren't actually - especially if they could not even speak Spanish.

Thursday, October 24, 1963:

First, our training here has been extended for an extra two weeks. This is because of the political situation in the DR. It's too bad, but it won't kill me. Personally I don't see how we can go down there if the US doesn't recognize the new government. I hope this doesn't interfere with my London home leave.

Had my 22nd birthday yesterday. Not really exciting - but no real

need. The parents sent me \$100., for which I feel very embarrassed, but grateful. Also, received three Perry Shirts. I called Mait - didn't have much to say, but it was good to talk to him.

Last week nothing really exciting happened in training - just a lot of classes. A Mr. Vetter came here from USIA. He posed as a Latin American antagonist and talked of how to talk about the US. He was extremely interesting. I volunteered as a guinea pig and learned quite a bit of how hard it is to express certain ideas of the US. Also had two tests - one in Health and one in Are Studies. I thought I did OK in Health, but hear I didn't. Will find out tomorrow both the results.

Have Roger Nedry for Spanish again. He definitely ranks as one of the most incompetent instructors I've ever had. He's a very nice guy - but pathetic. My faith in Dr. Newton, Calaban, et al has diminished. In the face of all the criticisms, they still let him teach beginners.

Sunday, October 27, 1963:

This is the week everyone has been waiting for - selection comes on Thursday. I am scared - God I want to get in, and just can't talk.

Riots today in the DR in Santo Domingo. I just don't think we will be going down there. But that too we will have to wait and see.

Tuesday, October 29, 1963:

Andy Hernandez arrived today and talked to all of us in UCA. We will, at first, be stationed in rural communities and then later shifted to the city if our performance is adequate. We had an interesting talk in which he asked me my specific talents, to speak Spanish, what I thought I might be doing as a job in the PC.

To tell the truth, I am absolutely scared to death about selection. Andy Hernandez didn't say anything encouraging to me, as he did to some other people. I just know I am going to get it. Please NO!

Thursday, October 31, 1963:

This has been a day which I will never forget. Today I was selected as a Peace Corps Volunteer. But within the scope of the happenings, it feels so significant. Out of a group of 61, six were selected out. Vince Burger and Joe Dandrea were shifted to an English speaking project [later to be told that they were actually selected out]. Ike Ready and Tom Verbur were de-selected all together, as was Lois Mitchell and Bob Pence. I guess the fact that these individuals were de-selected is very hard for me to accept. This is a horrendously vicious, almost sadistic system. I guess out of pure necessity and purpose. But I can not divorce myself from the personal angle that a

very close friend of mine, Bob Pence, was de-selected for reasons that I do not know but still can not reconcile. I wonder what makes me so acceptable and Bob not. I just don't understand! I can't help but feel that I was in some way responsible for his de-selection because of the "Padre Pence" bit. Again, I just do not know. I only can hope that everything will work out OK for him. I know I couldn't handle this as he is now talking to people in his room. This has been a helluva day.

The Teacher Training Project has been changed to the ETV project in Columbia. I know they will probably talk to me, but I think I want to go down to the DR with Andy Hernandez. I really am beginning to think now, but I don't feel I will change.

It's hitting me now, for the first time, of what is really ahead of me. This is not a glamorous thing I am going to do, but a damn hard, sloppy job. I hope that I can do it - although I really feel that I can and will somehow.

Monday, November 4, 1963:

Today was the first day of our extra two weeks. Our schedule is good with the Spanish all conversation and a lot of free time.

Went to San Francisco last week-end. I flew up Saturday morning, having called Fred and Edith on Friday from LA. Went out to Berkeley and spent the afternoon with them and ate dinner in Chinatown at "Dan's" on Grant Avenue. Then I met the group at the "Hong Kong Bar". From there went around North Beach and Chinatown. Spent Saturday night at Karen Hahn's house with the other sixteen. On Sunday night flew back to LA.

San Francisco was interesting. It was a very clean city - but quite bland. The cable cars were neat as were the hills and views of the bay and bridge. But the city really didn't cut the ice. It's level of culture is extremely low as were the people - although there was an amazing lack of bums etc. To compare this city with New York is ridiculous. It's a beautiful city, but it really is not in the class of NY. But one shouldn't compare.

Sunday, November 17, 1963:

Training is over and am looking forward to leaving LASC, although I am worried as to my actual readiness to go to the DR. I wonder if any amount of training will give me a decent amount of confidence to perform the projected task in the DR.

It is going to be sad to leave some of those of whom I have grown very fond. But maybe I'll be down in Columbia as well - I won't be surprised.

Tomorrow the banquet and on to Wisconsin and London - Hooray!

Friday, November 29, 1963:

Am now in the plane to New York after my home leave in London. I certainly have a lot to catch up on. My original plans were radically changed at the last minute when I was told I would be unable to go to Wisconsin because of this special fare deal. This was terribly disappointing as I wanted to see Mait and Susan very much. I called Mait to say hello and good-bye and it was really a very emotional call. There was almost nothing to say in three to five minutes for two years that would be of any significance. For the first time in a long time I just broke down and cried. I was terribly sad. But have wrangled my way back early to the US and am going to Chicago this afternoon - I hope everything will work out OK.

Had a very relaxing and enjoyable time in London with the Parents. They seemed in good spirits and got a puppy named "Cromwell" which is going to be good for both of them. They have really done so much for me that it is impossible to repay. It was sad leaving them, but not as much as has occurred before. I have reached the definite conclusion that it is time to get out. Not that I want to leave, but I'm very much ready and impatient to begin my start in the world, especially after the tragic events of the last week.

With the despicable tragedy of the assassination of President Kennedy, I feel the importance of my doing anything I can to prevent such a deed from occurring. Not that I am going to change the world or the US - but I feel an honestly real obligation to contribute what I can to the betterment of things in life - as small and minute as that might be. At first, I felt a deep personal loss of a man who held my undaunted respect and admiration, for he - much more than most - tried to do his best to better the world and humanity. His sphere of influence certainly was greater than any in which I will operate, but that does not lessen my obligation or importance. At first when Kennedy died, I wondered why I was going to the DR to help them when such an event can occur in my own country. I felt a great frustration of not being able to do anything except feel sorry for him, his poor family, for the country, and for the entire world. Kennedy would have been a great President in the line of Lincoln and FDR. For both these men and Kennedy felt a deep desire to help humanity and to make the country and the world a better place for all - especially the poor and the unfortunate. Perhaps what I am about to do is more than I could in the US and is what is needed now more than ever. People need to be reaffirmed that the US is not a bunch of killers, but a civilized nation that is able to carry on and possibly bring about the cures to the disease that was responsible for Kennedy's death.

Monday, December 8, 1963:

Am sitting here in Santo Domingo in the Bar Cibao of the Hotel Jaragua on the eve of my moving into a Pension to begin my work as a volunteer.

To catch up, I spent Friday through Monday in Wisconsin with Mait and Susan. It was great to see them again. Mait seemed to be overly distressed about his job as he does with everything that distresses him. They are living well and except for Mait worrying about getting into the rut of life, they seem contented. Leaving Wisconsin I want to Carl to pack. I included everything from plastic jars to film - most of which seems now to be unnecessary. Carl was terribly nice and gave me a trans-oceanic radio.

I left Westport on December 4 and went to the PAA Terminal at Idewilde to meet my group and check in. We had a good flight down and arrived in Santo Domingo about 10:00PM. At the airport there was quite a large group of people there - we thought to meet us. But as it turned out, they were there to greet some other guy who played baseball. They did take our picture and some movies, which I understand were later shown at some movie theater. We had a brief hassle at customs, but got out and went to the Hotel El Jaragua.

I have just completed a few days of orientation as outlined on the sheet. It was very helpful, especially the talks by Andy Hernandez on Community Development. The staff seems quite nice - although reports from the older volunteers say that they are basically incompetent at their job - especially Bob Satin, my area Rep.

There was quite a useful field trip into the barrios to get used to them and exposed to them. Roger Johnston and I went together into Cunitas, having supposed to go to Capotillo. We walked around and were invited into two houses - both of which had two daughters who dressed into their Sunday Best to impress us. We walked and talked to others and got to know a soldier very well, who offered a plan for me to stay in his house for that night. It was very interesting and beneficial in helping me get rid of some of my timidity. When I got out of the car with Roger, I was worried and scared. But as soon as I began talking, I got less and less nervous.

The barrios were not nearly as bad as I thought or had expected. Many of the houses were fairly clean as were the dirt streets. The kids were playing baseball in every corner possible with anything that they had. There is a real need for recreation as there is for health, as many of the younger kids have distended stomachs and blonding hair from malnutrition. These people really have nothing of real material wealth. There is a tremendous deflationary condition here with soaring prices - and most people with no income. I just can't understand how people live with the prices as high as they are. But because of this I can see how and why this country is so poor and underdeveloped.

An example of this is the price of the pensions. I finally

after six hours I found a room with a Dominican for \$60.00, including three meals a day. For this price, this is an unbelievable price. There were some absolutely ramshackle place for up to \$90.00.

Last night went to the movie "El Americano Feo". It was fascinating to sit there and listen to the Dominicans cheer at all the anti-US remarks about imperialism and aggression. It seems to me that some of the people in the US should have been there to see how, it must be many in the world, feel about the US.

This work that I am about to begin, I am just realizing, is going to be just plain hard, dirty but - conceivably and probably - a very rewarding one. IT's going to take a lot of work to get started and a little bit accomplished. But am looking forward to getting my assignment and getting started. We have a meeting tomorrow with Bob Satin and on Wednesday with the the Community Dev't Minister of the Government. Am living in the same pension as Rob Gutowski, Joe Morrison, Judy Woods, Judy Gove, and Karen Kahn.

Forgot to mention - went to two baseball games and talked in the clubhouse with Marichal and the two Alous. Really great guys. The fans are fanatics - blowing horns, running on the dugout, on the field before the game. There is a "White Owl" that lives in the stadium and superstition has it that if he flies over the field, the team that is in the field loses. The umpires have to wear .45 pistols. Really a gas.

Tuesday, December 10, 1963:

Am spending my first night in my pension which is pretty good. The food is excellent and the Dona very nice and helpful in everything. I am rooming with a student just finishing his law studies. His name is Nelson Something and is supposed to be the real Cat of the crowd. A nice guy who seems to be eager to help me to learn the damn language.

Had a meeting with Satin and the rest of the Volunteers here in the city about the projects. I will be working with Joe Morrison in the barrio of "El Algibe". In the beginning all of us will work to reconstruct a large recreation center in the middle of the city as part of a city-wide recreation program. That seems good and beneficial and Joe Morrison has been selected Sports leader and coordinator of the city.

Otherwise things are going OK as I am just getting settled, although I am going to try to find a cheaper place to live - probably an apartment near Luperon. Went to the "Night Fighters" tonight and on the way home passed a band of cops with machine guns - don't know why or where they were going.

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
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RECORD NUMBER : 198-10004-10011
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FROM : R. D. ALBRO
TO : OFFICE, SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
TITLE : TRAINING OF CUBAN REFUGEES IN NICARAGUA
DATE : 12/11/63
PAGES : 11
SUBJECTS : ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS

ARTIME, MANUEL

CUBAN BRIGADE

KENNEDY, ROBERT

CUBAN EXILE TRAINING IN NICARAGUA

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COMMENTS : Califano Papers, Box 6, Folder 10. Memo regarding
training of Cubans in Nicaragua, recruitment efforts
of Manuel Artime, meeting between Artime and Robert
Kennedy, and Cubans in US Army.

Originating Agency:

Subject:

Date:

198-10004-10011
ARMY
TRAINING of Cuban Refugees
11 Dec 63 in N. America

Other Agency Equities (check those that apply:)

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20310

ACSI-CX

11 DEC 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: OFFICE, SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

ATTN: MR. JOSEPH CALIFANO, GENERAL COUNSEL

SUBJECT: Training of Cuban Refugees in Nicaragua (S)

1. (U) References:

- a. ACSI-CX Memorandum 19 Nov 63, above subject, to Office, Secretary of the Army
- b. Intelligence Report #2870006563, 9 Aug 63, Subject: Prominent Cuban Exiled Leaders visit Nicaragua (U), from USAARMA, Nicaragua
- c. Intelligence Report #2870009363, 31 Oct 63, Subject: Puerto Cabezas and Cuban Exiles (U), from USAARMA, Nicaragua
- d. Summary of Information, 1 Nov 63, 112th INTC Op, Subject: Cuban Officer Training Program (U)
- e. Memorandum for Record, ACSI-CX, 19 Nov 63, Subject: Cuban Brigade Member (U)

2. (S) Reference 1a, prepared at the request of your office, advised that query by USAARMA, Managua within the U. S. Embassy there, revealed no indication that Colonel Thomas D. McPhail, O-30613, USA Retired, the former Chief of US Army Mission, was in anyway involved in the training of Cuban refugees in Nicaragua.

3. (C) During the above inquiry, the USAARMA, Managua called attention to two intelligence reports he had furnished (references 1b. and 1c above) reporting Nicaraguan press comment on the visit of exiled Cuban refugee leaders Dr. Manuel ARTEAGA Buena, Dr. Carlos PRIO Socarras, Dr. Manuel Antonio DE VARONA, Dr. Francisco FERNANDEZ Pla, Dr. Laureano BATISTA, Dr. Orlando PUENTES, Dr. Miguel DE LEON, and Roberto RODRIGUEZ to Nicaragua during July and August 1963. The USAARMA's comment on the newspaper speculation and rumors concerning this visit was that he "does not have any firm information or indicators that anti-Castro forces are being trained in Nicaragua."

OSA. ASG. CONTROL NO. 28738

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11 DEC 1963

ACSI-CX

SUBJECT: Training of Cuban Refugees in Nicaragua (S)

4. (C) Reference 1d. from the A. C. of S, G-2, Fourth Army reports alleged efforts by Dr. Manuel ARTIME Buena, to get some of his former associates in the Bay of Pigs invasion to resign their U. S. Army commissions and go with him to a revolutionary camp in Nicaragua. A copy of this reference is inclosed for your information. COMARC, Fourth Army and 3rd Army have been directed to continue to report on the alleged recruiting activity by ARTIME.

5. (C) Reference 1e. reports information received from Ft. Holabird, Md., that a former Cuban Brigade member, 2nd Lt Jose Raul VARONA Gonzales, C-2312303, had been invited by 2nd Lt. Enaido OLIVA (former second in command at the Bay of Pigs) to visit Washington, D. C. on 18 Nov 63 to meet with Mr. Robert Kennedy, the Attorney General. VARONA is a student at Ft. Holabird and reportedly was the G-2 of Brigade 2506 in the Cuban invasion. When VARONA returned from Washington he did not mention seeing Mr. Kennedy, but did say that he had met with Lt. OLIVA. The actual purpose of the meeting is not known. A copy of reference 1e. is inclosed for your information. Mr. Robert Kennedy did confer on 17 Nov 63 with Manuel ARTIME Buena, Roberto SAN ROMAN aka Roberto Perez SAN ROMAN, Jose SAN ROMAN aka Jose Perez SAN ROMAN, and Enrique Jose RUIZ William Alfert. They were also scheduled to meet with Mr. Robert Kennedy on either 21 or 22 November 1963. There is no indication that Ft. Holabird student VARONA was present.

6. (C) This office has no information whether Mr. Kennedy is aware of ARTIME's alleged recruiting activity. The information in paragraphs 3 through 5 above, and the inclosures hereto, are furnished in the event that they may be of some pertinence to your inquiry regarding Colonel McPhail, reference 1a. above.

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[SgD] R. D. Albro, Col, GS

R. D. ALBRO
Colonel, GS
Director of Foreign Intelligence

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

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1963

PREPARING OFFICE

Region I, 112th Intelligence Corps Group, San Antonio, Texas

SUBJECT

Cuban Officer Training Program (U)

112th INTELLIGENCE CORPS GROUP

SECRET CONTROL NUMBER:

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OF INFORMATION:

CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES . . . 1
PROBABLY TRUE 2
POSSIBLY TRUE 3
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TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED . . . 6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

COPY 1-4 OF 5 COPIES

1. (C) During the month of June 1963, Manolo Artime, a leading political figure among the Cuban refugees in Miami, Florida, in the company of Segundo Gorges, came to Fort Benning, Georgia, for the purpose of recruiting people to go to a revolutionary camp in Nicaragua. Juan M. Quintana-de la Torre, 2d Lt, C2 312 403, Detachment 21, 2d Student Battalion (SB), the Student Brigade, US Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, presently on Temporary Duty (TDY) with 3628th School Squadron (SS), Lackland Air Force Base (LAFB), Texas; Mario Eloy Jimenez-Rojo, 2d Lt, C2 312 439, Detachment 21, 2d SB, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB; Armando Caballero-Parodi, 2d Lt, C2 312 432, Detachment 21, 2d SB, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB; "Llayo (fmu) Varona" and Source went to visit Artime in his motel in Columbus, Georgia. Artime informed this group that the US Government was not going to do anything for Cuba and that he (Artime) had obtained aid and instructors from Europe. Source opposed Artime's statements and did not believe it, since they were in conflict with the aspirations and plans of the US Government. Source believes Artime succeeded in recruiting at least two members of Detachment 21, Isidro J. Montesino-Acosta, 2d Lt, C2 312 401, and Pedro Acebo-Rodriguez, 2d Lt, C2 312 350. Montesino-Acosta and Acebo-Rodriguez resigned from the Cuban Training Program upon completion of the course at Fort Benning, and their present whereabouts are unknown to Source.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Manuel de Jesus Perez Marquez, 2d Lt, C2 312 323, Detachment 21, 2d SB, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 23 September 1963.

(F-3)

2. (C) The Officers of Detachment 21 commented among themselves that Manolo Artime came to Columbus, Georgia, to recruit personnel from the Cuban Officer Training Program to go to a camp in Nicaragua. Source did not know anything concerning any officers who were planning to resign upon termination of the course of instruction. (Source refused to elaborate on this subject and it is the opinion of investigators that he was withholding information)

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Juan Quintana-de la Torre, 2d Lt, C2 312 403, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 23 September 1963.

(F-3)

3. (C) In June 1963, one Manolo Artime, an anti-Castro leader, visited Fort Benning, but the purpose of his visit was unknown to Source as he did not go to see Artime and had no association with him. However, Source was later informed that the purpose of Artime's visit was to recruit certain individuals from Detachment 21 to go to a training camp in Nicaragua. Source did not know who the individuals were at the meeting with Artime, but did learn later that several members of the Detachment agreed to

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SUBJECT: Cuban Officer Training Program (U)

DATE: 1 November 1963

resign in order to go to Nicaragua immediately following the completion of the course of instruction at Fort Benning which ended on 2 August 1963. Source believes the following individuals resigned due to the influence of Artime and have joined his camp: Pedro Acebo-Rodriguez, 2d Lt, C2 312 371; George M. Navarro-Rodriguez, 2d Lt, C2 312 378; Jorge Lincoln Mas-Canosa, 2d Lt, C2 312 444; Luis de Jesus de Lamar-Maza, 2d Lt, C2 312 390; and Hector Antonio de Lamar-Maza, 2d Lt, C2 312 389.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Felix Eloy Perez-Tamayo, 2d Lt, C2 312 351, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 23 September 1963. (F-3)

4. (C) Source has heard of the existence of a group of officers in the Cuban Officer Training Program who are considering resigning from the Program in the near future. At LAFB, there are a number who are waiting for the termination of their English course to resign, while others plan to turn in their resignation after arriving at a new station. One of them is Rene F. Gomez-Figueroa, 2d Lt, C2 312 397. Source believes that the reason for their leaving is that they plan to transfer to Nicaragua, or another overseas base, in order to continue their fight against Communist Cuba. This group is in contact with Pedro Acebo-Rodriguez and Antonio Iglesias-Pons, both of whom resigned from the Cuban Training Program upon completion of the course at Fort Benning and who are in Nicaragua organizing anti-Castro regime activities. (This group consists mainly of men who fought in the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba)

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Ernesto de los Angeles Lluersma-Pares, 2d Lt, C2 312 319, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 22 October 1963. (F-3)

5. (S) There is a group within the Cuban Officer Training Program presently undergoing training at LAFB who are planning to submit their resignations upon completion of additional courses. One of these individuals is Ladislao George Fernandez-Martinez, 2d Lt, C2 312 392. The motive for presenting their resignations is to go to Nicaragua and organize an attempt to overthrow Castro. This group is in contact through correspondence with Pedro Acebo-Rodriguez and Antonio Eugenio Iglesias-Pons, both of whom resigned the course while at Fort Benning in August 1963. Fernandez is expecting to hear from Manolo Artime in order to submit his resignation in late November and go to Nicaragua. Artime revealed to Fernandez details about his conference with Charles de Gaulle of France and Conrad Adenauer of Germany. Artime showed documents and pictures to Fernandez corroborating his conferences with de Gaulle and Adenauer. Artime told Fernandez that de Gaulle and Adenauer have promised him help to establish a camp in Nicaragua for the purpose of taking over Cuba. Such help should start to be received by Artime after November 1963. Alberto Maleo Munia-Boris, 2d Lt, C2 312 400, another officer who resigned from the program in August 1963 and now residing in Miami, wrote a letter to Federico Garcia-Geli, 2d Lt, C2 312 393, LAFB, explaining his reasons for

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SUBJECT: Cuban Officer Training Program (U)

DATE: 1 November 1963

resigning the program and requesting that the letter be circulated among the fellow officers of the class at LAFB. The letter said that he (Muina) left the course because many of the men who had applied for the various schools, such as the Intelligence and the Armored Schools, were still at Fort Benning wasting time. Also, Muina had applied for a demolition course and after he was placed on orders to go to the course, the orders were cancelled. Muina did not like this and decided to get out. Source, who knows Muina well, is certain that Muina is working for or with Artimo also. Muina has indicated repeatedly to his friends and to the officers undergoing the program that Cuba will not gain its liberty with the assistance of the United States, but needs to look for help from another country. Muina believes that the United States has decided to apply the principle of co-existence towards Cuba. Muina also has stated that the United States Government lacks the ability to understand the Latin American problems, and that he is going to join Artimo.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Isidoro Noriega-Ruiz, 2d Lt, C2 312 369, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 24 October 1963. (F-3)

6. (C) Rene Faustino Gomez-Figueroa, 2d Lt, C2 312 397, and Mario Eloy Jimenez-Rojo, 2d Lt, C2 312 439, who will graduate 3 December 1963, are contemplating resignation, exact reasons unknown. Of the officers who have resigned with the intention of joining a group to defeat Castro, Source remembers Antonio Iglesias-Pons who resigned recently. Miranda-Hernandez has heard that Iglesias is recruiting people in Miami to be taken to a camp in Nicaragua which is operated by Manolo Artimo. Pedro Acebo-Rodriguez and Luis de Jesus Sierra-Lopez, 2d Lt, C2 312 345, resigned from the US Army and have left with Artimo and are believed to have gone to Nicaragua.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Segundo Melanio Miranda-Hernandez, 2d Lt, C2 312 309, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 24 October 1963. (F-3)

7. (S) Diego Emiliano Borges-Torres, 2d Lt, C2 312 431, is attempting to find out if the ultimate purpose of the Cuban Officer Training Program is identical to the program which is controlled by Manuel Artimo to train people in Nicaragua. Upon obtaining this information, Borges-Torres is going to inform Source. If the plan is the same, everyone in the program will immediately go to Nicaragua because in Nicaragua the fight against Castro is more imminent. Help has been offered to Artimo by Somoza of Nicaragua and by de Gaulle of France, who apparently has offered the Isle of Martinique for the operations against Castro. Manuel Artimo visited Columbus, Georgia, a few months ago and spoke to many Cuban officers and tried to recruit them as instructors to go to the camp in Nicaragua. Source was not present at any of the meetings with Artimo.

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SUBJECT: Cuban Officer Training Program (U)

DATE: 1 November 1963

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Ramon Perez-Veytia, 2d Lt, C2 312 370, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 25 October 1963.

(F-3)

8. (S) There is a group of officers within the Cuban Officers Training Program at LAFB who contemplates submitting their resignations if the United States has not done anything for the freedom of Cuba by December 1963. Many officers have indicated their desire to resign in order to join Manuel Artime who is supposedly organizing a training camp in Nicaragua. Artime has some contacts among the officers undergoing training at LAFB, and for a long time, these officers have been undermining the present training program by spreading dissension among their fellow officers. These men also have developed a recruiting campaign to supply Artime with qualified leaders for the Nicaraguan camp. Artime's recruiters at LAFB are: Diego Emiliano Borges-Torres, 2d Lt, C2 312 431; Ladislao George Fernandez-Martinez, 2d Lt, C2 312 392; Leon Dilio Carrazana, 2d Lt, C2 312 341; Conrado Caballero-Acosta, 2d Lt, C2 312 352. Borges-Torres is the chief representative of Artime at LAFB. He has made several trips to Miami recently and has been spending much money. He also has an expensive apartment in San Antonio, Texas, which he shares with Fernandez-Martinez. Next in command in the above group is Fernandez-Martinez. Carrazana has stated to Source that he intends to submit his resignation in December 1963 to join Artime. Carrazana also offered Source \$250 salary, plus \$25 for each child he might have, plus \$25 for any position he may hold in the training camp, if he resigns and goes to Nicaragua. Antonio Iglesias-Pons will be the man in charge of the of the training camp in Nicaragua. It is being rumored that a Latin American country is going to buy planes from England and make them available to Artime. It is also rumored that contacts exist with France, but Source does not know if they are with the French government or with private enterprises. The Somoza regime in Nicaragua has also promised assistance to Artime in the forthcoming operations against Communist Cuba. In early August 1963 while at Miami, Fernandez-Martinez offered Source \$500 if Source would accept a position in Nicaragua with Artime. On or about 25 October 1963, Fernandez-Martinez told Source at LAFB that he (Fernandez-Martinez) wanted to talk to Source about another offer similar to the first. Source did not stop to listen as he was in a hurry but promised to see Fernandez-Martinez later. Source was told by one Horiberto Villamil, a Cuban national, Private, undergoing English instruction also at LAFB, that Luis M. Fernandez-Barrios, Ensign, 672 450, has submitted his resignation in order to go to Nicaragua. In Source's opinion, Borges-Torres persuaded Fernandez-Barrios to resign.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Ramon Lorenzo Pineiro-Galban, 2d Lt, C2 312 339, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 28 and 29 October 1963.

(F-3)

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SUBJECT: Cuban Officer Training Program (U)

DATE: 1 November 1963

9. (C) Renaldo N. Blanco-Navarro, 2d Lt, C2 312 258, 3628th SS, LAFB, received a telephone call on or about 25 October 1963 from Antonio Iglesias-Pons, currently in Miami, Florida. The purpose of the call was apparently to persuade Blanco-Navarro to resign from the Cuban Officer Training Program and join the camp of Artimo in Nicaragua.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Angel Roberto Mujica-Herrera, 2d Lt, C2 312 306, Detachment 21, 2d SB, Fort Benning, presently on TDY with 3628th SS, LAFB, on 30 October 1963.

(F-3)

10. (C) Gomez-Figueroa and Fernandez-Barrios submitted letters of resignation to the Liaison Officer, 3628th SS, LAFB, on 28 October 1963.

SOURCE: The above information was furnished by Victor F. Zabelle, Captain, Inf, 02263628, U.S. Army Liaison Officer, Student Brigade, Fort Benning, Georgia, presently on TDY with the 3628th SS, LAFB, on 28 October 1963.

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD: (C)

At 1030 hours 19 November, Major Bryce, G-2 Section, Ft. Holabird, telephoned Exploitation Section and reported that Jose Raul VARONA Gonzales, a student in the Officers' Intelligence Course, had received a phone call from Washington, D. C. on the night of the 18th requesting him to come to Washington the following day. The call was from Lt. Eneido OLIVA who was second in command at the Bay of Pigs and, according to VARONA, now commander of Brigade 2506. OLIVA wanted him to come to Washington to meet with Mr. Robert Kennedy, the Attorney General.

Major Bryce subsequently stated that VARONA was now assigned to the Department of Non-Resident Instruction inasmuch as he had fallen behind academically as a result of hospitalization. He will resume his studies when the next officers' course begins. Bryce further stated that VARONA was reportedly the G-2 of Brigade 2506, was a second lieutenant, had serial number C-2312303, and that his hospitalization was for injuries received during a fight in a Baltimore nightclub in October.

Colonel Garrison, the G-2 at Holabird, talked to VARONA on another matter after he returned from Washington, stated that VARONA made no mention of seeing Mr. Kennedy but did say that he had met with OLIVA who was enroute to the Artillery GM Center and wanted to see how he was convalescing and to learn the details of the nightclub fracas. Major Bryce doubted if VARONA saw Mr. Kennedy and strongly suspected that he had merely used the Kennedy name to obtain a VOCO.

Exploitation Section's files reveal that VARONA was born in November 1937 and that he was and possibly still is the G-2 of Cuban Brigade 2506. In 1957 he worked for the Tennessee Crippled Children's Society in Nashville. He attended 10th and 11th grades in Franklin, Tennessee and Peabody College in Nashville for two and a half years. He has many relatives who were high officials of the Cuban government before and after Batista's overthrow.

Search of CIA, CAC (Miami) and Exploitation files reveals that due to internal dissension within the Brigade there is no individual who is recognized by all factions as Brigade Commander. Colonel Kail, CAC reports that there are three main groups under Artime, Llaca and Varela respectively who are known as Brigade Commander. None of these individuals are in the U. S. Army.

CIA and Colonel Kail, CAC report no knowledge of the alleged meeting between the unidentified Brigade Commander Varona and Mr.

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R.G. O'Connor
ROBERT G. O'CONNOR
Exploitation Section
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ACSI-CX

MEMORANDUM FOR: OFFICE, SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

19 NOV 1963

ATTN: MR. JOSEPH CALIFANO

SUBJECT: Training of Cuban Refugees in Nicaragua

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1. (S) On 7 November 1963, this office was informed by a member of your staff that purportedly a Colonel McPhail, allegedly former Army Attache, Nicaragua was training Cuban refugees in Nicaragua. This office was asked to determine the validity of this information.

2. (U) It is established that Colonel Thomas Donald McPhail, O-30613 (Ret) was Chief of the United States Army Mission, Nicaragua from 31 March 1960 to 20 August 1962. (See Incl 1 Resume on Colonel McPhail).

3. (S) In response to a query from this office the Army Attache, Nicaragua reports that Col McPhail arrived in Managua, Nicaragua o/a 15 July 1963 from New York, via Mamenic Steamship Lines (owned by Somoza interest). McPhail was the house guest of an AID official, he initially engaged in fishing and visiting old friends. He called on the Army Attache, Lt. Col. John J. Morgan, stated that while the purpose of his visit was for pleasure and recreation, he had, since his arrival been offered a job as technical Port advisor to the Port Superintendent of Puerto Somoza, by COMABESNIC, a Somoza owned company. The Port Superintendent is Frank Kelly, who may be identical to Frank J. Kelly, a Nicaraguan citizen, 5 June 1963 graduate USMA. Frank J. Kelly was awarded a B.S. degree but was not commissioned in the U.S. Army. His Father is Frederico G. Kelly, San del Sur, Nicaragua.

4. (C) According to available information, McPhail occupied himself for several weeks at Puerto Somoza, then without fanfare or farewells, suddenly departed Nicaragua for the U.S. in early September 1963 via Lanica Airlines. Recently an AID official in Managua received a letter from Colonel McPhail from his current address 511 So. Church St., Mt. Pleasant, Penna.

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ACSI-CX

SUBJECT: Training of Cuban Refugees in Nicaragua (S)

5. (C) During the period of McPhail's visit to Nicaragua, there was a flare-up of newspaper speculation there concerning Anti-Castro exiles in training and conjecture that such forces were being trained by U. S. Army personnel around Puerto Cabezas. In fact the local French press representative mentioned Col McPhail's presence to the Army Attache, remarked at the coincidence of the visit and inferred that McPhail might be involved in training exiles.

6. (C) The Army Attache and other U.S. Embassy officials do not have any indicators, rumors or confirming information that McPhail is or was engaged in or instrumental in training of Cuban refugees in Nicaragua.

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(sgd) Charles J. Denholm

CHARLES J. DENHOLM
Brigadier General, GS
Acting ACofS for Intelligence

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

CIA queried Mr. Califano's office on a Col McPhail, former ARMA Nicaragua, who purportedly was training Cuban exiles in Nicaragua. CIA said McPhail was not involved with any of their activities, therefore they were concerned that he was perhaps involved in some unauthorized action.

Lt Col Haig, Califano's office requested the undersigned to carefully explore McPhail's activities exercising great caution so as not to inadvertently get into a "going operation".

The outgoing query to ARMA, Nicaragua stressed the need for discretion and cautioned against investigative action of any kind. The outgoing message was checked w/Lt Col Haig to be certain it contained the correct information and the caution required in the query.

Operations Br. was queried ref McPhail with negative results. The above Memo contains information provided by ARMA and that info that pertains to McPhail's background developed from his CRF and 201 files.

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DOROTHE E. MATLACK
Chief, Exploitation Section
K75085/mdj

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April 25, 1961

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 46

TO: The Secretary of State

SUBJECT: Attitude of Various Governments during the Cuban Crisis

In approving the Record of Actions of the April 22, 1961, meeting of the National Security Council, the President requested that he and the Vice President be informed promptly as to which governments have been helpful in various parts of the Cuban crisis and which have been unhelpful (NSC Action 2406 k).

Accordingly, it is requested that the Department of State present the above information as soon as possible to this office for transmittal to the President and the Vice President.

McGeorge Bundy

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

cc: Bromley Smith
Mrs. Lincoln
McG B's file ✓

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